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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,

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Hongkong, 1st November, 1891.

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While the Editors of the Hongkong Telegraph will always be open for the free discussion of all questions of public interest, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1891.

"GOOD BYE, SUMMER."

Le Roi est mort—Vive le Roi! The Major

General has passed away from us, and now Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON will

reign in his stead. It is a pity (just now)

that Hongkong is not like the Straits, where the Commanding officer is

permanently a member of Council; for our

present General is really an admirable man

for the post he now vacates, and we

There is one feature of his (Digby's, not Barney's) character that is specially interesting. Many of the good works effected under him (how often do we have a Governor of whom we could say "many" of his "good" works?) have been really brought about by what he said, though he seemed to be speaking for the Government and against those very reforms. How is this? He pretended to support Mr. Mitchell-Innes entirely, or to be entirely led by him, in the historical series of snarls at the unofficials "whose services were better dispensed with," for His Excellency more than once made remarks as to factious and obstructive tactics; yet now that it is all over, it is plain that he was, whether consciously or not, really helping greatly to give the unofficials the fair hearing so outrageously denied them. He saw what Mr. WHITEHEAD was getting at; he was not misled by that unfortunate style which is our Tribune's only drawback; no, the General could see below the surface, could appreciate honest endeavours, and he contrived to add them in spite of the Official Mules. In such a spirit with a Governor like Major General DIBBY BARKER, all these petty squabbles would soon disappear, all trivial and merely superficial faults—of judgment, of manner, of every sort—would be overlooked without waste of time and temper, and real business would be facilitated as it never has been in the Hongkong Legislature for a long time.

Take yesterday's Council meeting (which we reproduce in full to-day) as an example. It is, though long, well worth reading carefully all through, for every feature of Hongkong government is there. Mr. WHITEHEAD is there with a long speech—not well worded, not well delivered, truly; but showing in every sentence hard work, careful thought, painful earnestness for the public good. Mr. GOODMAN is there also, to the life—honest and well meaning, but ally, childish, petulant and unutterably ridiculous. His Excellency's speech illustrates admirably the feature mentioned above. Ostensibly he opposed this reform, and as a matter of form he rejected the motion; but his words support it. He made three points—(1) that the accusation that cadets were unloaded on us like German princelets on English taxpayers, was incorrect; (2) that opium revenue was not over-estimated; (3) that "land sales" and "licences" had not been over-estimated. Closer inspection shows (1) that his Excellency had himself found it necessary quite lately to request the stoppage of the Cadet Nuisance; (2) that Mr. WHITEHEAD's error as to opium resulted from the farmer's inability to pay up this year's money, and that this serious fact had been carefully concealed by—well, if it is a fair question—who was the criminal that added and debited this fraud? (3) as to land sales and licence fees, Mr. WHITEHEAD was substantially correct. So then, that is the way in which our "simple soldier" works, more subtly than Mark Antony himself, leading round by inference to the way—which—straightforward—advocacy would never reach. Most heartily we congratulate him on his success, and sincerely and warmly thank him for his share in the governing of Hongkong. "How far I have succeeded in this I must leave to others to judge." Judgment—Admirably."

TELEGRAMS.

EGYPTIAN FINANCE.

LONDON, December 5th.

The Egyptian Budget for 1892 will show a surplus of £500,000.

OBITUARY.

The ex-Empress of Brazil, Don Pedro II.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The *Dalma*, *Fidello* and *Oscar* have

been docked at Kowloon to-day, for cleaning and

repairs.

The export of curios from Yokohama, according

to the *Tokyo Mainichi Shinbun*, grows steadily

less. The reason given is deterioration in

quality and design.

We are informed by the agents of the Austro-

Hungarian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's

steamer *Maria Teresa* left Singapore for this

port at 6 p.m. yesterday.

The *Mainichi Shinbun* says that it is in contemplation to disband the contingent in the

company of the Japanese consulates in Manila, Shanghai, and Singapore, in order to effect a

reduction of expenses.

The *Kobe Chronicle* learns on the best authority that the action of the late manager of the Hongo

Hotel against the directors for wrongful dismissal has been settled out of court, on the payment to

Mr. Dyer of a very substantial sum.

A new journal is about to be established in Tokyo which will have the name of *Sun Toku* or the "One-Inch Iron." The iron is to be

directed against the Government. (Some Governments do require a crowbar to let loose into them.)

The *Mercury* notes the departure of Mr. H. Norman, the eminent journalist, per steamship *Newswang* for Tientsin. A prominent member

of the London Press, Mr. Kinnear of the *Chronicle*, arrived in Shanghai on the 2nd inst. from the North.

ABOUT half a million piculs of Northern produce were awaiting shipment in Newchwang, when a

port suddenly closed. It appears that everything was done save the *Longhai* from going on to the Newchwang bar, but she was carried

helplessly, there by the ice.

At the regular meeting of the Lodge "Star of Southern China," No. 203, E.C., held in the

Freemasons' Hall, Canton, on the 5th inst. W. Bro. O. Möller was elected Worshipful

Master; Bro. Karamia was elected Treasurer, and Bro. Halberg Tyler for the ensuing year.

The French Admiral has, says the *Mercury* telegraphed to the commander for the *Viper*, which is at present stationed at Wuhu, to come

down immediately to Shanghai, coal and provisions, and proceed without delay to Tientsin.

Instructions have been given for her to make every endeavour to cross the Bar, and get up to the Tientsin Band at all hazards.

MANILA papers to hand this morning give a glowing account of St. Andrew's day in that

city. The celebration was the celebration of a "divine religious" type, and ended with the ceremony of hoisting a new Castilian

standard over the Consistory Council House, amid the soul-stirring strains of a poem specially composed by the Governor's Secretary. Local

Dr. Döberck in addition to stating in his weather report to-day that the barometer is falling adds; a strong north-east monsoon is blowing over

the China Sea. Great! Great! Now, who would have thought that a real genuine N.E. monsoon was blowing at this time of the year

right over the China Sea? But the Doctor says so, and sailors must bow to his superior knowledge.

ACCORDING to a telegram from the Japanese Consulate at Tientsin, some 5,000 Chinese made

camp at Mongolian Prince, and murdered 300 Chinese Christians at Nekia, north of the Wall. 3,000 soldiers were dispatched. A later rumor

says that 5,000 soldiers were sent, but 4,000 were either killed or injured, and 3,000 fled. The number of rebels is said to be about 15,000, and some foreigners are said to be among them.

At the recent Singapore Assize Carl Bahicks pleaded guilty to stealing a cheque book from the Rev. A. Lamont. Mr. Lamont took the

prisoner in and gave him a room and food. While he was away in Johore the prisoner broke open a drawer and stole the cheque book, forging his name on several cheques. Mr. Justice Goldney sentenced him to seven months' imprisonment, remarking that he gave a very light sentence so that on the conclusion of it the prisoner might be sent home to Germany. "Poor unfortunate

German!"

FROM the Singapore papers to hand yesterday it is seen that the southern port obtained some very fair scores in the inter-colonial rifle

match between Shanghai, Hongkong, and

Singapore though the excellence of the Singapore

Team was collective rather than individual.

The scores were—

Col. Serp. Fomale, 5th, 100 200 400

1st, 100 200 400

2nd, 100 200 400

3rd, 100 200 400

4th, 100 200 400

5th, 100 200 400

6th, 100 200 400

7th, 100 200 400

8th, 100 200 400

9th, 100 200 400

10th, 100 200 400

11th, 100 200 400

12th, 100 200 400

13th, 100 200 400

14th, 100 200 400

15th, 100 200 400

16th, 100 200 400

17th, 100 200 400

18th, 100 200 400

19th, 100 200 400

20th, 100 200 400

21st, 100 200 400

22nd, 100 200 400

23rd, 100 200 400

24th, 100 200 400

25th, 100 200 400

26th, 100 200 400

27th, 100 200 400

28th, 100 200 400

29th, 100 200 400

30th, 100 200 400

31st, 100 200 400

32nd, 100 200 400

33rd, 100 200 400

34th, 100 200 400

35th, 100 200 400

36th, 100 200 400

37th, 100 200 400

38th, 100 200 400

39th, 100 200 400

40th, 100 200 400

41st, 100 200 400

42nd, 100 200 400

43rd, 100 200 400

44th, 100 200 400

45th, 100 200 400

The *Empress of Japan* with Sir W. Robinson

on board, is expected at 11 a.m. on Thursday.

The Willard Opera Company has practically

broken up in Singapore, the leading soprano,

Miss Alice St. John, the chief tenor, Mr. William

Walsh, and nearly the whole of the chorus

having found it necessary to leave Mr. Willard

under circumstances which are partly explained

by the exceptionally bad business done by the

Company, and partly by the fact that the

Company are understood to complain very

bitterly of the treatment they have received.

Miss Alice St. John, upon whom, as the soprano,

so much of the heavy work of the recent tour

has fallen, is desirous of getting up a benefit

performance here, probably of "Trial by Jury,"

with amateur assistance, to enable her to

proceed home to Australia. Mr. Walsh will

also take part. Miss St. John, we trust, will

find that the sympathy of those who have so

often enjoyed her singing will take a practical

form, and that any benefit performance she may

give here will be heartily supported.—*Free*

Press.

THAT there is at least one bright jewel in every

ten thousand of the "heavenly chorus" is forcibly

exemplified by the revelations recently published

in Shanghai relative to the way in which a poor

little, a journalist, and this is again illus-

trated to-day in the spontaneous and public

expression of true gratitude exhibited by Fung

Yat, the master of coal junk No. 66, who was

rescued by Lt. Comr. L. K. Bell, of the

M. S. S. *Phlox* during the night of the 3rd

instant when his junk foundered in the storm.

Fung Yat came to this office voluntarily yester-

day and requested us to insert his

statement as an advertisement in three con-

secutive issues of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, and

to add the dollars to pay for the desired

publicity. He plaintively told our interpreter

that he would have given the money to Mr. Bell

if he could. Failing that, he gave all the public

ity he could by inserting his story in our

advertisement columns where it now is. We have

only to add that we trust Commander Bell's

plucky conduct will be recognised by the Royal

Humanity Society in due course.

HERR FRIEDENTHAL.

The great maestro, whom all the critics in

Japan and Shanghai have declared to be the

first pianist ever heard in the East, arrived

to-day from Shanghai, where he gave several

concerts which were most warmly appreciated

by the Hattandars. The *Daily News* said of

him:—

It would be difficult to witness a more striking

illustration of the power which culture and

practice gives over an instrument, than that which

Herr Friedenthal displayed last night. All

through the programme he exhibited the most

marvellous mastery over the piano-forte, drawing

sounds from the instrument that are completely

beyond the power of the ordinary performer,

and that can only be expected after a lifetime

of incessant application. In a word Herr

Friedenthal is a genius, whose advent in

Shanghai must, for ever, remain a landmark

in the musical annals of the Settlement.

Professor Friedenthal will open in the City

Hall on Tuesday next. It is impossible to secure

the hall earlier, as several other affairs are in the

way. In the meantime we can assure our readers

(having heard him in Japan recently) that he is

as the matter of fact, a very fine pianist, and

that his visit ranks with those of the once-in-

